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Oriental languages, and was one of the officers sent in 1833 by the Governor-General to re-organize the Persian army. In Persia, where he remained for six years, he travelled extensively and paid great attention to the archæological remains and especially to the Behistun inscriptions. When the Afghan difficulties began, he was sent to Kabul, and later to Kandahar, where he prepared for the coming struggle by collecting supplies and expelling the Afghan population. He successfully defended the city against the victorious enemy, and returned to India with increased reputation.

He was appointed British Resident at Bagdad, in 1843, and there continued his study of the cuneiform inscriptions, to which he found the key. The writings at Behistun are on the smooth face of the rock, at an elevation of 300 feet above the plain, and it was a task of extreme difficulty and danger to reach them, but Sir Henry succeeded in copying the entire record.

In 1856 he was appointed a Director of the East India Company, and the next year took his seat in Parliament for Reigate. He was sent as Minister to Persia in 1859, and after his return to England again entered Parliament as Member for Frome. In 1868 he was made a Life Member of the India Council. Besides his well-known work, *England and Russia in the East*, Sir Henry's literary productions were confined to the memoirs which he contributed to the learned societies of Europe.

ISMAÏL PASHA.

The ex-Khedive of Egypt died on the 2d of March, 1895, at his palace on the Bosphorus, where he had lived in virtual captivity for a number of years.

Ismaïl was the son of Ibrahim Pasha and was educated in Paris. He became Viceroy of Egypt in January, 1863, and for fifteen years gave a loose rein to his extravagant taste for display and self-indulgence, without wholly neglecting his duties as a ruler. He built railways, made ports at Alexandria, Port Saïd and Suez, opened the Suez Canal, and extended his dominion to the equator; but the vast wealth which came into his hands, through the rise in the price of cotton caused by the American Civil War and from the numerous Egyptian loans, was squandered for the most part in reckless prodigality.

His forced abdication on the 26th of June, 1879, closed a career in which charity itself can find but little to approve.